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Claims

1. A method for distributing IN services between mobile networks, comprising the steps of:

- 5 a) providing a service trader function in at least one of said mobile networks, said service trader function providing a location information of distributed IN services;
- 10 b) checking said service trader function, when a location update procedure is performed; and
- c) updating a service trigger information in accordance with the checking result.

- 15 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said service trader function is provided at least in the home network of a mobile subscriber.

- 20 3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said service trader function provides an information about networks and service control points to which IN services have been downloaded.

- 25 4. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said service trigger information is a CAMEL subscriber information.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said location information provided by said service trader function comprises at least a gsmSCF address and a service key.

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6. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said trader function comprises a function for

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searching an IN service on the basis of a subscriber language and/or service attributes.

7. A method according to any of the preceding claims, further comprising the step of performing a rerouting to an actual location of said IN service, when said IN service is not available at the location indicated by said location information.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said rerouting is performed by said service trader function.

9. A method according to claim 7, wherein said rerouting is performed by a service controller of said mobile network.

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein said service controller is the CSE of the GSM.

11. A method for distributing IN services to a mobile network, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a service trader function in said mobile network, said service trader function providing a location information of distributed IN services;

b) checking said service trader function, as to the location of an IN service, when said IN service is triggered; and

c) sending the IN service invocation to the location of said IN service.

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12. A method according to claim 11, wherein said IN service is downloaded from said location of said IN service.

5 13. A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein said checking step is performed in a mobile switching center (MSC).

10 14. A method according to any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein said service trader function (STF) is arranged to obtain a service controller address of an IN service in a visited network based on a home service controller address of said IN service, when said IN service is downloaded from the home network to said visited network.

15 15. A method according to any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein said service trader function provides a function for selecting a voice service information.

20 16. A system for distributing IN services to a mobile network, comprising:

- a) service trader means (STF) for providing a location information of distributed IN services; and
- b) location register means (HLR) for checking said
- 25 service trader means (STF) in response to a location update procedure;
- c) wherein said location register means (HLR) is arranged to update a service trigger information in accordance with the checking result.

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17. A system according to claim 16, wherein said location register means is a home location register (HLR) of said mobile network.

5 18. A system according to claim 17, wherein a trigger information obtained from said home location register (HLR) comprises an information element indicating a home network resident part of said IN service.

10 19. A system according to claim 18, wherein said information element is provided by said trader means (STF).

15 20. A system according to claim 18 or 19, wherein said information element is stored in said home location register (HLR).

20 21. A system according to any one of claims 18 to 20, wherein said information element is a transparent data block only interpretable by a service logic of said IN service of a visited network.

25 22. A system according to any one of claims 18 to 20, wherein said information element comprises an address and a service key which identifies a service logic of said IN service in the home network.

23. A system according to claim 16, wherein said location register means is a visitor location register (VLR) of said mobile network.

30 24. A system according to any one of claims 16 to 23, wherein said service trader means (STF) is arranged in the

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home network of a mobile subscriber to which an IN service is to be provided.

25. A system according to any one of claims 16 to 24,
5 wherein said update service trigger information comprises an address information of a service controller to be contacted in case said IN service is not available at the location indicated by said checking result.

10 26. A system for distributing IN services to a mobile network, comprising:
a) service trader means (STF) for providing a location information of distributed IN services; and
b) a mobile switching means (MSC) for checking said
15 service trader means (STF) as to the location of an IN service, when said IN service is triggered;
c) wherein said mobile switching means (MSC) is arranged to perform downloading of the said IN service in accordance with the checking result.

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27. A system according to claim 26, wherein said service trader means (STF) is arranged to obtain a service controller address of an IN service in a visited network from a service controller of said visited network based on
25 a home service controller address of said IN service, when said IN service is downloaded from the home network to said visited network.

28. A system according to claim 27, wherein said service
30 trader means (STF) forwards a trigger information to said service controller of said visited network in response to said checking by said mobile switching means (MSC).

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29. A system according to any one of claims 26 to 28, wherein said service trader means (STF) is arranged as a separate network element.

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30. A network element (STF) for a mobile network, comprising:

a) receiving means for receiving a checking request for an IN service; and

10 b) service trader means for providing an identification information of said IN service in response to said checking request.

31. A network element according to claim 30, wherein said
15 IN service is a voice and/or announcement service, and said identification information is an address of said voice and/or announcement service.

32. A network element according to claim 31, wherein said
20 voice and or announcement service is identified by using an application identifier or by describing an attribute.

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33. A network element according to claim 31 or 32, wherein
25 said checking request is received from a CSE of the GSM.

34. A service controller comprising:

a) receiving means for receiving a service invocation from a service trader means (STF); and

30 b) means for performing an enquiry to a service means providing the invoked service, in response to said service invocation.

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35. A service controller according to claim 34, wherein said service controller is a CSE of a home network and the service means is a CSE of a visited network.

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36. A service controller according to claim 34 or 35, wherein said service invocation is an Initial Detection Point message.

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